

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 00672 100946Z

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 AF-08

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8578

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNESCO, OCON, PORG

SUBJECT: UNESCO GENEVA GROUP

1. UK HAS ASKED FOR US TO CONTINUE AS CHAIRMAN OF GENEVA GROUP FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1977 DUE FACT MARTIN, UK, IS NOW CHAIRMAN OF UNESCO EXECUTIVE BOARD. UK RATIONALE IS THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE EFFECTIVE AS CHAIRMAN WHILE MARTIN HEADS EXBD, AS MARTIN IS BOUND TO ADOPT NEUTRAL STANCE VIS-A-VIS BUDGETS. MARTIN IS IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR UK PERMREP CARR IN MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT. CARR FEELS HE COULD NOT EFFECTIVELY CHAIR GENEVA GROUP UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. THEREFORE, UK HAS DECIDED NOT TO ACCEPT CHAIRMANSHIP DURING MARTIN'S PERIOD AS CHAIRMAN OF EXBD. US WOULD HAVE RELINQUISHED CHAIR TO UK IN '77 AND RETURNED TO CHAIR IN '78.

2. AT MEETING OF GENEVA GROUP, FRIDAY, JAN. 7, CHAIRED BY US AT REQUEST OF UK, POSITION OF UK WAS PUT TO MEMBERS AND SUBJECT PUT TO DISCUSSION. MEMBERS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 PARIS 00672 100946Z

GENEVA GROUP WERE UNANIMOUS IN ASKING US TO CONTINUE IN CHAIR FOR 1977 AND ASSUME REGULAR CHAIRMANSHIP IN 1978. THIS MEANS THREE YEARS CONSECUTIVE US CHAIRMAN. THIS WAS SQUARELY PUT TO MEMBERS OF GROUP AND SUGGESTION STRONGLY MADE THAT OTHERS ASSUME CHAIR FOR 1977. AS CHAIRMAN, PERM REP, ASKED EACH MEMBER INDIVIDUALLY FOR VIEWS ON ACCEPTING CHAIR. NONE RESPONDED FAVORABLY AND

THEY CONTINUED TO URGE THAT US CONTINUE IN CHAIR OR THAT
UK AGREE TO TAKE CHAIR.

3. UK APPEARS ADAMANT THAT THEY WILL NOT BE CHAIRMAN
DURING PERIOD OF MARTIN'S CHAIRMANSHIP OF EXBD. THIS
PROBABLY IS PERSONAL WISH OF MARTIN, WHICH IS DUTIFULLY
BEING CARRIED OUT BY CARR, HIS SUBORDINATE.

4. PERM REP DECLINED MAKE COMMITMENT WITHOUT CONSULT-
ING DEPARTMENTBUT AGREED CALL FURTHER MEETING TO
ARRIVE AT A CONCLUSION. CHAIRMANSHIP OF GENEVA GROUP
IS IMPORTANT FUNCTION IN THAT INITIATIVE OF CHAIRMAN IS
NECESSARY TO KEEP GROUP GOING. CONSENSUS HERE SEEMS TO
BE THAT GENEVA GROUP IS WORTH SAVING.

5. REQUEST VIEWS DEPARTMENT.
GAMMON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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